



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Pennsylvania Agricultural
Statistics Service
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405
(717) 787 3904
FAX (717) 782 4011

Pennsylvania Press Release

PRESS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2000

RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP 9 PERCENT IN MAY

HARRISBURG --- Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in **Pennsylvania** during May 2000 totaled 101.1 million pounds, up 9 percent from May 1999, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS).

Beef production, at 110.1 million pounds live weight, was up 12 percent from May 1999. Total head slaughtered was 87,900, up 11 percent; and live weight averaged 1,252 pounds, an increase of 6 pounds compared to one year ago.

Veal production was 5.13 million pounds live weight, up 11 percent. Calf slaughter of 13,500 head was up 3 percent, and average live weight increased 28 pounds to 381 pounds.

Pork production was 49.4 million pounds live weight, up 5 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 202,900, up 5 percent. Average live weight was 244 pounds, up 1 pound compared to May 1999.

Lamb and mutton production was 470,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent. The number slaughtered was 5,300, down 15 percent. Average live weight was 89 pounds, up 4 pounds from last year.

Nationally, commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in May 2000 totaled 3.88 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the 3.60 billion pounds produced in May 1999. Beef production, dressed weight basis, at 2.30 billion pounds, was up 7 percent from the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.18 million head, up 6 percent from a year earlier. Veal production, at 19.0 million pounds, was up 13 percent from the previous year. Calf slaughter totaled 92,000 head, up 3 percent from May of last year.

Pork production totaled 1.54 billion pounds, up 9 percent from May 1999. Hog kill totaled 7.95 million head, 7 percent above a year earlier. Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous record low for May set in 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 259,000 head, down 4 percent from a year earlier.